Amendments To The Specification:

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 11 of the specification with the following:

D1

Related art bone ring implants where the implant is a circle, oval, or oblong have trailing ends that are either modified to be squared-off, or unmodified so as to remain a portion of a circle, an oval, or an oblong and have a medial side wall that is incomplete due to a portion of the medullary canal interrupting the side wall. The present invention implants have an interior facing medial side wall adapted for placement medially within the disc space with the side wall intact and substantially in the same plane and an exterior facing lateral side wall opposite to the medial side wall adapted for placement laterally. The interior and exterior facing side walls have an inner surface facing each other. The implants of the present invention also may have a mid-longitudinal axis between the medial and lateral side walls wherein the mid-longitudinal axis at the leading end extends forward further than the lateral side wall at the leading end while the medial side wall is not equal in length to the lateral side wall, but is greater in length.

Please replace the sixth full paragraph on page 14 of the specification with the following:

D2

FIG. 6A is a partial enlarged fragmentary view along line 6A-6A of FIG. 5.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph 6 on page 14 of the specification:

D3

-- FIG. 6B is a partial enlarged fragmentary view along line 6B-6B of FIG. 5.--

Please replace the first paragraph on page 15 of the specification with the following:

D3 FIG. 9A is a top plan view of an implant in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention illustrating the mid-longitudinal axis and a plane bisecting the mid-longitudinal axis along the length of the implant.

Please add the following new paragraph after the first full paragraph on page 15 of the specification:

D4 --FIG. 9B is a top plan view of an implant in accordance with another embodiment of the present invention illustrating the mid-longitudinal axis and a plane bisecting the mid-longitudinal axis along the length of the implant.--

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 15 of the specification with the following:

D5 FIG. 4 shows an embodiment of the present invention comprising an interbody spinal implant generally referred by the numeral 100, inserted in the direction of arrow P from the posterior aspect of a vertebral body V on one side of the centerline M in the lumbar spine. Implant 100 has a leading end 102 for insertion into the disc space and an opposite trailing end 104. In a preferred embodiment, leading end 102 is configured to not extend beyond the outer dimensions of the two vertebral bodies adjacent the disc space proximate leading end 102 after implant 100 is installed, to maximize the area of contact of the implant with the vertebral bone. Leading end 102 could be described as being generally configured to generally conform to at least a portion of the natural anatomical curvature of the aspect of the vertebral bodies adjacent the disc space proximate leading end 102 after implant 100 is installed. The general configuration of leading end 102 is further described in connection with Figs. 9A and 9B~~Fig. 9~~ below.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 16 of the specification with the following:

As shown in FIGS. 5, 6A, and 6B ~~and 6~~, implant 100 has opposed portions 106 and 108 that are adapted to contact and support adjacent vertebral bodies when inserted across the intervertebral space. In this embodiment, opposed portions 106, 108 have a non-arcuate configuration transverse to the longitudinal axis of implant 100 along at least a portion of the length of implant 100. Opposed portions 106, 108 are spaced apart and connected by an interior side wall 112 and an exterior side wall 114 opposite interior side wall 112. Interior side wall 112 is the portion of implant 100 adapted to be placed toward another implant when implant 100 is inserted in pairs into the disc space between the adjacent vertebral bodies to be fused. Interior side wall 112 is not the internal surface of a hollow interior of implant 100. Exterior side wall 114 is adapted to be placed into the disc space nearer to the perimeter of the vertebral bodies than interior side wall 112. Side walls 112, 114 may also include at least one opening for permitting for the growth of bone therethrough.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 17 of the specification with the following:

As illustrated in FIG. 9A, implant 100 has a mid-longitudinal axis MLA along its length. Mid-longitudinal axis MLA is bisected by a plane BPP perpendicular to and bisecting the length of implant 100 along the mid-longitudinal axis MLA. Implant 100 has a first distance as measured from point C at leading end 102 to bisecting perpendicular plane BPP at point E that is greater than a second distance as measured from bisecting perpendicular plane BPP at point F to the junction of leading end 102 and exterior side wall 114 at point B. Implant 100 has a third distance as measured from point A at the junction of leading end 102 and interior side wall 112 to bisecting perpendicular plane BPP at point D that is greater than the second distance as measured from point F to point B. While in the preferred embodiment as shown in FIG. 9A, the

third distance from points A to D is illustrated as being longer than the first distance from points C to E, the third distance can be equal to or less than the first distance, such as shown in FIG. 9B. In a preferred embodiment, the first distance measured from points C to E is greater than the second distance measured from points B to F; the third distance measured from points A to D can be less than the first distance measured from points C to E; and the third distance measured from points A to D does not equal the second distance measured from points B to F.